

House Resolution 417

By: Representatives Brooks of the 63rd, Watson of the 91st, Thomas of the 55th, Jones of the 44th, Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights
2 march; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, March 2005 marks the 40th anniversary of the historic Selma-to-Montgomery
4 voting rights march that focused America's attention on the need for voting rights and full
5 citizenship for African Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, the Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march has been identified by historians
7 and civil rights leaders as one of the last great protests of the modern civil rights movement;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march was an integral part of the
10 African American quest for civil rights and the evolution of American democracy; and

11 WHEREAS, from a national perspective, the march was part of the advancement of
12 citizenship rights in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, this 54 mile route to American history represents America's struggle on the
14 long road from the injustices of the past to the promise of the future; and

15 WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that the legacy of this historic march live on and be
16 told to future generations of Americans.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
18 the members of this body commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Selma-to-Montgomery
19 voting rights march and pay tribute to the courage and commitment of those men and women
20 who made the historic march 40 years ago.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Evelyn G. Lowery.